

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below, without prejudice:

Claims 1-41 (canceled)

42. (Currently amended) A method of attaching a ligament or tendon implant to the endosteal portion of a bone of a patient comprising the steps of:

- (a) drilling a hole through the bone of the patient;
- (b) attaching the implant to an anatomical structure other than the bone;
- (c) inserting through the drill hole an attachment member comprising a grasping hook, configured for grasping a free end of the ligament or tendon implant and a shaft attached to said grasping hook, wherein the shaft is configured to interact with a securing means, and wherein the shaft and grasping hook are adapted to fit within ~~a~~ the drill hole in said bone;
- (d) grasping the free end of the implant with the grasping hook;
- (e) drawing the implant into the drill hole;
- (f) securing the shaft to the securing means, such that the implant is retained within the drill hole.

43. (Original) The method of claim 42, where the securing means is configured to attach to the shaft of the attachment member.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, where the shaft further comprises a threaded shaft for attaching to the securing means.

45. (Original) The method of claim 44, where the securing means comprises a retention disc with a threaded hole adapted to rotatably attach to the threaded shaft.

46. (Original) The method of claim 45, where the retention disc has a frusto-conical shape.

47. (Original) The method of claim 45, where the step of drilling a hole in the bone further comprises drilling a contoured drill hole including a larger diameter portion where the retention disc can be secured against the bone with the entire device remaining inside the endosteal portion of said bone.

48. (Original) The method of claim 45, where the retention disc is comprised of a metal.

49. (Original) The method of claim 48, where the metal is selected from the group comprising: titanium, stainless steel, cobalt-chromium-molybdenum alloy, titanium-aluminum vanadium alloy, and other alloys thereof.

50. (Original) The method of claim 44, where the retention disc is comprised of a plastic.

51. (Original) The method of claim 50, where the plastic is an ultra high molecular weight polyethylene.

52. (Original) The method of claim 45, further comprising the step of attaching a tension measuring means to the implant.

53. (Original) The method of claim 52, further comprising the step of adjusting the attachment of the retention disc until the implant reaches a predetermined tension.

54. (Original) The method of claim 44, where the securing means comprises a threaded nut.

55. (Original) The method of claim 54, where the step of drilling a hole in the bone further comprises drilling a contoured drill hole including a larger diameter portion where the threaded

nut can be secured against the bone with the entire device remaining inside the endosteal portion of said bone.

56. (Original) The method of claim 55, where the securing means further comprises a washer placed between the threaded nut and the bone.

57. (Original) The method of claim 56, where the threaded nut is comprised of a metal.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57, where the metal is selected from the group comprising: titanium, stainless steel, cobalt-chromium-molybdenum alloy, titanium-aluminum vanadium alloy, and other alloys thereof.

59. (Original) The method of claim 54, where the threaded nut is comprised of a plastic.

60. (Original) The method of claim 59, where the plastic is an ultra high molecular weight polyethylene.

61. (Original) The method of claim 42, where the attachment member is comprised of a metal.

62. (Original) The method of claim 61, where the metal is selected from the group comprising: titanium, stainless steel, cobalt-chromium-molybdenum alloy, titanium-aluminum vanadium alloy, and other alloys thereof.

63. (Original) The method of claim 42, where the attachment member nut is comprised of a plastic.

64. (Original) The method of claim 63, where the plastic is an ultra high molecular weight polyethylene.

65. (Original) The method of claim 53, further comprising the step of attaching a tension measuring means to the implant.

66. (Original) The method of claim 65, further comprising the step of adjusting the attachment of the retention disc until the implant reaches a predetermined tension.

67. (Original) The method of claim 42, where the implant comprises a bone patellar tendon bone implant.

68. (Original) The method of claim 42, where the implant comprises an Achilles tendon bone implant.

69. (Original) The method of claim 42, where the implant comprises a central quad tendon implant.

70. (Original) The method of claim 42, where the implant comprises a hamstring tendon implant.

71. (Original) The method of claim 42, where the implant comprises an artificial ligament material.

72. (Original) A method of attaching a ligament or tendon implant to the endosteal portion of a bone of a patient comprising the steps of:

- (a) drilling a hole through the bone of the patient;
- (b) attaching the implant to an anatomical structure other than the bone;
- (c) inserting through the drill hole an attachment member comprising a grasping means for grasping the ligament or tendon implant and a shaft attached to said grasping means, wherein the shaft and grasping means are adapted to fit within the hole in said bone, the attachment member further comprising a locking means disposed on the shaft;
- (d) grasping the free end of the implant with the grasping means;
- (e) drawing the implant into the drill hole;

(f) inserting the shaft into a securing means having a receiving means for interacting with the locking means in a non-threaded interference fit to thereby inhibit movement of said attachment member relative to the bone in a first direction; and

(g) inserting the shaft further into the securing means until the implant is subjected to an increased tension, and locking the shaft with the locking means to thereby maintain said increased tension.

73. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the securing means is disposed to attach to the shaft of the ligament attachment member.

74. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the first direction is opposite the direction in which the shaft is inserted.

75. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the locking means further comprises a series of slanted ridges formed along the long axis of the shaft.

76. (Original) The method of claim 75, where the securing means further comprises a push nut.

77. (Original) The method of claim 76, where the receiving means further comprises one or more flanges located on the push nut, surrounding a central hole, the flanges configured to allow the slanted ridges on the shaft to pass in one direction when the shaft is inserted into the central hole, but engaging the slanted ridges in an interference fit when the shaft is moved in an opposite direction.

78. (Original) The method of claim 77, where the step of drilling a hole in the bone further comprises drilling a contoured hole including a larger diameter portion where the push nut can be secured against the bone with the entire device remaining inside the endosteal portion of said bone.

79. (Original) The method of claim 78, where the push nut is comprised of a metal.

80. (Original) The method of claim 79, where the metal is selected from the group comprising: titanium, stainless steel, cobalt-chromium-molybdenum alloy, titanium-aluminum vanadium alloy, and other alloys thereof.

81. (Original) The method of claim 77, where the push nut is comprised of a plastic material.

82. (Original) The method of claim 81, where the plastic material is an ultra high molecular weight polyethylene.

83. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the attachment member is comprised of a metal.

84. (Original) The method of claim 83, where the metal is selected from the group comprising: titanium, stainless steel, cobalt-chromium-molybdenum alloy, titanium-aluminum vanadium alloy, and other alloys thereof.

85. (Original) The method of claim 84, where the attachment member is comprised of a plastic material.

86. (Original) The method of claim 85, where the plastic material is an ultra high molecular weight polyethylene.

87. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the grasping means further comprises a grasping hook.

88. (Original) The method of claim 72, further comprising the step of attaching a tension measuring means to the implant.

89. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the implant comprises a bone patellar tendon bone implant.

90. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the implant comprises an Achilles tendon bone implant.

91. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the implant comprises a central quad tendon implant.

92. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the implant comprises a hamstring tendon implant.

93. (Original) The method of claim 72, where the implant comprises an artificial ligament material.

Claims 94-121 (canceled)